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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/805,396	03/13/2001	Michael S. Cohen	10004164-1	1699

7590 10/20/2004  
HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

JACOBS, LASHONDA T

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2157

DATE MAILED: 10/20/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/805,396

Applicant(s)

COHEN, MICHAEL S.

Examiner

LaShonda T Jacobs

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 July 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-11 and 14-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-11 and 14-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

• **DETAILED ACTION**

***Response to Amendment***

This Office Action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on July 8, 2004. Claims 1-2, 5-11 and 14-18 are presented for further examination. Claims 3, 4, 12 and 13 have been cancelled.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-2, 5-11 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Onaga in view of Lahmi.

As per claims 1 and 10, Onaga discloses a method of allocating use of peripheral devices in a network system comprised of:

- providing peripheral devices access limitations to the users by the central device (abstract, col. 3, lines 46-67, col. 4, lines 1-4, and col. 10, lines 1-42); and
- informing the peripheral devices of the access allowed to users by the central devices (col. 10, lines 1-42).

However, Onaga does not explicitly disclose:

- identifying users in the network to a central device;

- wherein peripheral devices perform document processing;
- reading marks on documents processed by the peripheral devices; and
- identifying, by the marks, the documents to the central device.

Lahmi discloses a method and device for securely duplicating, sensitive documents including:

- identifying users in the network to a central device (col. 5, lines 54-58, col. 6, lines 59-67, col. 7, lines 1-3 and col. 15, lines 48-66);
- wherein peripheral devices perform document processing (abstract, col. 5, lines 59-67, col. 6, lines 1-2, col. 12, lines 51-63 and col. 15, lines 15-31);
- reading marks on documents processed by the peripheral devices (col. 9, lines 66-67, col. 10, lines 1-10, lines 42-50 and col. 13, lines 19-34); and
- identifying, by the marks, the documents to the central device (col. 9, lines 66-67, col. 10, lines 1-10, lines 42-50 and col. 15, lines 37-66).

Given the teaching of Lahmi, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Onaga by allowing the peripherals devices to read marks on documents in order to identify sensitive documents and users on a network in order to provide a secure method for processing/duplicating sensitive documents.

As per claims 2 and 11, Onaga discloses:

- accounting peripheral device usage of the users by the central device (col. 1, lines 32-47, , col. 4, lines 46-65, col. 5, lines 2-10 and col. 10, lines 1-16).

As per claims 5 and 14, Onaga discloses:

- relating the identified documents to users that request the identified documents (col. 10, lines 31-35, col. 12, lines 51-67 and col. 13, lines 1-9).

As per claims 6 and 15, Onaga discloses:

- providing an embedded virtual machine in each of the peripheral devices wherein the embedded virtual machine interfaces to the central device (col. 4, lines 46-62).

As per claims 7 and 16, Onaga discloses:

- wherein at least one of the peripheral devices is a multi-functional peripheral device whereby the central device configures the multi-functional peripheral device to serve specific functions (col. 2, lines 26, lines 33, col. 4, lines 62-65 col. 6, lines 35-42, col. 10, lines 60-67 and col. 11, lines 1-5).

As per claims 8 and 17, Onaga discloses:

- wherein the central device comprises of logic in a server connected to the network system (col. 4, lines 46-62).

As per claims 9 and 18, Onaga discloses:

- providing the users with collective and individual information and status of the peripheral devices (col. 10, lines 31-35, col. 12, lines 51-67 and col. 13, lines 1-9).

### ***Response to Arguments***

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-2, 5-11 and 14-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LaShonda T. Jacobs whose telephone number is 703-305-7494. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 703-308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

LaShonda T. Jacobs  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2157

ltj  
October 4, 2004

  
MOUSTAFA M. MEKY  
PRIMARY EXAMINER